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PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket No: 28341/6227.NCP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Lowery et al.

Serial No: 09/545,199

Filed: April 6, 2000

For: ANTI-BACTERIAL VACCINE  
COMPOSITION

Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: V. Portner

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this date: September 27, 2001

Joseph A. Williams, Jr.

### RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the outstanding Office Action mailed on August 28, 2001 (hereinafter, the "Office Action"), by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-referenced application. The Examiner imposed a restriction requirement on pending claims 1-51 which were divided into Groups I-VII; Group I, claims 1-33, drawn to recombinant gram-negative bacteria; Group II, claims 34-35, drawn to methods of making recombinant gram-negative bacteria; Group III, claims 36-44, drawn to purified and isolated polynucleotides; Group IV, claims 45-46, drawn to polypeptides encoded by the polynucleotides; Group V, claims 47-48, drawn to antibodies immunoreactive with the polypeptides; Group VI, claim 49, drawn to methods of identifying a bacteria using a monoclonal antibody; and Group VII, claims 50-51, drawn to methods of identifying an agent that will interfere with expression of gene product.